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F 19826

25X1A2g

COUNTRY France

CIA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Maintenance Difficulties of TAI and Air France / Aircraft Utilization

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

25X1X6

Supplement to:

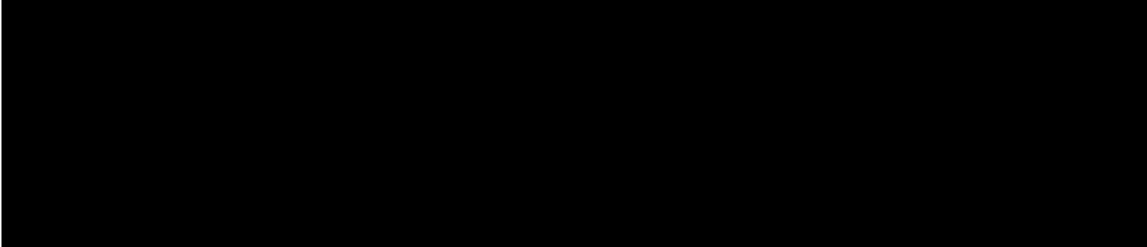
DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO) Sep 53

Responsive to:

25X1X6

25X1A9a



1. TAI [Compagnie de Transports Aériens Intercontinentaux] appears to be suffering inconveniences due to a lack of spare parts for its aircraft. The borrowing of spares from other airlines, such as Sabena [Société Anonyme Belge de la Navigation Aérienne] and LAL [Lignes Aériennes Italienne], has prevented any major operational difficulties to date [September 1953]. Utilization of TAI's three DC-6Bs is high and the number of hours accumulated by each airplane necessitated a 1000 hour inspection within five and one-half months of operation. TAI's management does not appear to be giving sufficient time to the ground crews to permit completely adequate maintenance work on its aircraft.
2. Air France maintenance people are [as of September 1953] quite concerned with the operation of the two Viscounts. There is a lack of spare parts due to poor delivery schedules, and miscellaneous difficulties encountered with respect to pressurization and propellers make it difficult to meet regular schedules. I understand flights have been cancelled on a number of occasions. Air France is busy with its Super Constellations, six of which have been delivered so far. One is being flown approximately eight hours a day for training and another is being used on the Mexico City run at the rate of 74 hours per week. There are five round trips to New York per week. [REDACTED] Daily Super Constellation utilization is averaging 10.03 hours per day per aircraft.

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TYPE ACT-DATE INFO-FPA-DATE AREA

138 France

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maintenance

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